



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 170

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024

No. 11

## House of Representatives

The House met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BANKS).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
January 22, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JIM BANKS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

Pastor Zack Randles, Waterfront Church, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Gracious and awesome God, we come before You today on behalf of the men and women who serve in this Chamber, their teams, and their families.

May You bring peace and clarity to their minds so that they can hear Your voice and each other's voices. May You provide them with words and concepts that will bring understanding and growth. May You open their eyes to genuine need and stir their spirits to act swiftly in prudence and creativity. Help them to forge a path forward together.

Protect them from destruction and direct them around pits and traps set by those who would seek to bring chaos. Fill their hearts with courage and their souls with conviction because hope is never lost for those whose trust is in the Lord. Give them resolve to finish the journey You started them on, and may You grant them a glimpse of the fruit that their righteous work is producing.

Thank You for being a God who hears us. I pray all this in the mighty name of Jesus.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(z) of House Resolution 5, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON), the whole number of the House is 432.

### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE BRITISH-AMERICAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761 and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the British-American Interparliamentary Group:

Mr. CROW, Colorado  
Mr. MEEKS, New York  
Ms. DELBENE, Washington  
Mr. GOMEZ, California  
Ms. MATSUI, California

### BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Kevin F. McCumber, Acting Clerk of the House, reported that on January 19,

2024, the following bill was presented to the President of the United States for approval.

H.R. 2872. Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

### ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(z) of House Resolution 5, the House stands adjourned until 3 p.m. on Thursday, January 25, 2024.

Thereupon (at 11 o'clock and 5 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 3 p.m.

### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-2950. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-367, "Wage Transparency Omnibus Amendment Act of 2023", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-2951. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-368, "Work Order Integrity Amendment Act of 2023", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-2952. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-369, "Catlett Alley Designation Act of 2023", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. CARAVEO (for herself, Ms. CHU, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. HAYES, Ms.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H245

WILD, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. TITUS, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. ROSS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. TRONE, Mr. FROST, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. PETERSEN, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. MENG, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. SORENSEN, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. IVEY, Mr. CARSON, Mr. COHEN, and Ms. BALINT):

H.R. 7059. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a grant program to increase capacity for providing abortion services and other sexual and reproductive health care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mrs. PELTOLA):

H.R. 7060. A bill to make permanent the authority to reimburse members for spouse relicensing costs pursuant to a permanent change of station; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 7061. A bill to provide loans and other financial assistance to small businesses affected by the wildfires on Maui, and for other purpose; to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FINSTAD (for himself, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. BACON, Ms. CARAVEO, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. SOTO, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. ALFORD, and Mr. SMUCKER):

H.R. 7062. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to periodically assess cybersecurity threats to, and vulnerabilities in, the agriculture and food critical infrastructure sector and to provide recommendations to enhance their security and resilience, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct an annual cross-sector simulation exercise relating to a food-related emergency or disruption, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. LANDSMAN:

H.R. 7063. A bill to prohibit Federal funds from being made available to any pregnancy center that diverts people from accessing comprehensive and timely medical care from licensed medical professionals; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama (for himself and Mr. VASQUEZ):

H.R. 7064. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to include the provision of tree nuts (including shelled tree nuts) under the seniors farmers'

market nutrition program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO (for herself and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 7065. A bill to include water supply and water conservation as a primary mission of the Corps of Engineers in planning, designing, constructing, modifying, operating, and maintaining water resources development projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NEWHOUSE (for himself, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DE REMER, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. FULCHER, and Mr. BENTZ):

H.R. 7066. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to allow or study the breach or alteration of the Lower Snake River dams or implement the Columbia Basin Restoration Initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 7067. A bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to allow the District of Columbia to receive Federal funding under such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself and Mr. PFLUGER):

H.R. 7068. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for the scheduling of tianeptine as a schedule III substance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SALINAS (for herself and Ms. TOKUDA):

H.R. 7069. A bill to amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to expand permissible uses of assistance to firefighters grant funds relating to behavioral and mental health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. STANTON (for himself and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 7070. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to conduct a review of the criteria for evaluating the cost-effectiveness of certain mitigation projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. STEVENS:

H.R. 7071. A bill to amend section 7(b) of the Small Business Act to make disaster loans available for damages caused by prolonged power outages, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. TIFFANY:

H.R. 7072. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain National Forest System land in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest to Tony's Wabeno Redi-Mix, LLC, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WEBER of Texas (for himself, Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. LUCAS, and Mr. OBERNOLTE):

H.R. 7073. A bill to improve public-private partnerships and increase Federal research, development, and demonstration related to the evolution of next generation pipeline systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 7074. A bill to affirm the State of Texas's right to implement operational pro-

tections along the southern border, to authorize the State to construct a physical border wall in areas where the international border is not adequately protected with physical barriers, and to allow reimbursement from the Federal Government; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KUSTER (for herself and Ms. MALOY):

H. Con. Res. 84. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal collectively to the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Services Company, known collectively as the "Ghost Army", in recognition of unique and highly distinguished service during World War II; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. LETLOW (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. GUEST, Mr. TRONE, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. EZELL, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DE REMER, Ms. ROSS, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. CHU, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. CASE):

H. Res. 977. A resolution recognizing the importance and contributions of National Board Certified Teachers; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. CARAVEO:

H.R. 7059.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I SECTION 8 POWERS OF CONGRESS

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a grant program to increase capacity for providing abortion services and other sexual and reproductive health care, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 7060.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.)

The single subject of this legislation is:

to make permanent the authority to reimburse servicemembers for spouse relicensing costs pursuant to a permanent change of station.

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 7061.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide loans and other financial assistance to small businesses affected by the wildfires on Maui, and for other purpose.

By Mr. FINSTAD:

H.R. 7062.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1  
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to assess cybersecurity threats to, and vulnerabilities in, the agriculture and food critical infrastructure sector.

By Mr. LANDSMAN:

H.R. 7063.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit federal funds from being made available to any pregnancy center that diverts people from accessing comprehensive and timely medical care from licensed medical professionals.

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama:

H.R. 7064.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to include the provision of tree nuts (including shelled tree nuts) under the seniors farmers' market nutrition program, and for other purposes.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO:

H.R. 7065.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Water Resources Development

By Mr. NEWHOUSE:

H.R. 7066.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

to prohibit the use of federal funds to allow or study the breach or alteration of the Lower Snake River dams or implement the Columbia Basin Restoration Initiative

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 7067.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill would amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to allow the District of Columbia to receive federal funding under such Act.

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 7068.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Drug scheduling

By Ms. SALINAS:

H.R. 7069.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

Mental Health

By Mr. STANTON:

H.R. 7070.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To improve FEMA's response to wildfires.

By Ms. STEVENS:

H.R. 7071.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Power Outage.

By Mr. TIFFANY:

H.R. 7072.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Forest Service land conveyance

By Mr. WEBER of Texas:

H.R. 7073.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To facilitate research and development of pipeline technologies.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 7074.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Acknowledges the State of Texas' right to secure the border, provides the State of Texas the authority to secure the border, including physical barriers, increased law enforcement presence, surveillance technologies, and other measures deemed necessary to enhance border security and stop illegal crossings, and allows the State to apply for reimbursement.

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 45: Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. CROW, and Mr. SORESENSEN.

H.R. 51: Ms. PELOSI and Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 431: Mrs. HINSON.

H.R. 443: Ms. DE LA CRUZ.

H.R. 531: Mrs. KIM of California, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. BERGMAN, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. WOMACK.

H.R. 537: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. PANETTA, and Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 594: Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 595: Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 926: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. MENENDEZ.

H.R. 1024: Mr. HIMES.

H.R. 1118: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. HARDER of California, and Mr. MENENDEZ.

H.R. 1293: Ms. SALINAS.

H.R. 1323: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 1371: Ms. BROWNLEY.

H.R. 1491: Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 1768: Mr. CRANE.

H.R. 1785: Mr. YAKYM.

H.R. 1788: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1814: Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 1815: Mr. RYAN.

H.R. 2481: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 3036: Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 3056: Ms. SPANBERGER and Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 3106: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 3199: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 3202: Mr. ROSE.

H.R. 3433: Mr. KIM of New Jersey and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 3464: Mr. WENSTRUP.

H.R. 3510: Mr. CASTEN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, and Ms. WILD.

H.R. 3576: Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 3749: Mr. WENSTRUP.

H.R. 4333: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.

H.R. 4538: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.

H.R. 4701: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 4779: Ms. DELBENE and Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 5048: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. MENENDEZ.

H.R. 5360: Mr. MAGAZINER.

H.R. 5401: Ms. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 5433: Mr. GALLEGO.

H.R. 5456: Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mrs. HAYES, and Ms. BALINT.

H.R. 5526: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.

H.R. 5585: Mrs. LUNA.

H.R. 5813: Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 5819: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.

H.R. 5909: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 6046: Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. GIMENEZ.

H.R. 6199: Mr. NICKEL.

H.R. 6203: Mr. CUELLAR.

H.R. 6220: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.

H.R. 6232: Ms. SCHOLTEN.

H.R. 6283: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 6415: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 6438: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 6451: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ and Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 6683: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 6724: Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 6727: Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. MANN.

H.R. 6754: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.

H.R. 6762: Mr. CURTIS.

H.R. 6780: Mr. CÁRDENAS and Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 6853: Mrs. CAMMACK.

H.R. 6876: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.

H.R. 6931: Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 6941: Ms. DE LA CRUZ.

H.R. 6943: Mr. IVEY.

H.R. 6962: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 7003: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 7014: Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.

H.R. 7045: Mr. EZELL.

H.J. Res. 13: Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. MENENDEZ.

H. Res. 895: Mrs. FLETCHER.

H. Res. 901: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H. Res. 965: Mr. CROW, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. HOUCHIN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Mr. LIEU.

H. Res. 966: Mrs. HOUCHIN, Mr. NORMAN, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. DELUZIO, Ms. BALINT, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. AMO, and Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.

H. Res. 974: Mr. OGLES.



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# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 170

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024

No. 11

## Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TAMMY DUCKWORTH, a Senator from the State of Illinois.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we lift our hearts to You, the giver of wisdom, strength, and peace. Guide our lawmakers through the deliberations of this day. Lord, give them wisdom to work for justice and to advance Your kingdom on Earth. May they set a course for this Nation that unites people in dedication to truth, courage, and righteousness. Lord, empower our Senators to meet today's joys with gratitude, its difficulties with fortitude, and its duties with fidelity. Teach them to toil and to ask for nothing more than to know they are pleasing You.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The assistant bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, January 22, 2024.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable TAMMY DUCKWORTH, a Senator from the State of Illinois, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,  
President pro tempore.

Ms. DUCKWORTH thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Christopher Koos, of Illinois, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors for a term of five years.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

#### BORDER SECURITY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, this week, Senator LANKFORD and several colleagues continue their work to finalize the most substantial border security policy in 30 years. This agreement would come not a moment too soon. Over the past 3 years, we have watched the flood of illegal immigration tick past 6.7 million encounters—6.7 million since President Biden took

office and an especially alarming surge just last year. December reportedly saw the highest monthly total for border encounters on record.

The President's open borders have meant booming business for the cartels who specialize in trafficking humans and smuggling drugs and far harsher realities for American communities grappling with lethal fentanyl and the thousands of people who have died trying to cross.

This is a crisis, whether the Washington Democrats are willing to call it one or not. The American people recognize what CBP and ICE are up against, even if their Commander in Chief does not. And the entire world understands what is at stake here in the Senate in the coming weeks.

America's national security begins with securing and maintaining our borders. It is a matter of basic sovereignty.

#### NATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. President, but we are also a global superpower with global responsibilities. We are facing serious, linked challenges on multiple fronts, and, once again, that is reality—whether or not our Commander in Chief acknowledges it.

In Europe, our closest allies and trading partners are one border away from facing the brunt of naked authoritarian aggression, and it took months for the Biden administration to grasp the urgency of that threat.

America's allies look to us to lead by example, to deliver decisive capabilities to Ukraine, and to step up investments in upgrading our arsenal and expanding our capacity to stock it.

But for months, getting the administration to authorize lethal capabilities to help beat back Putin's escalation was a little bit like pulling teeth. And, for years, the administration's defense budget requests have failed to demonstrate willingness to take the threats we face seriously.

Right now, at long last, our European allies are making serious commitments

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S193

to carry their share of responsibilities of collective defense, and they are leading the pipeline of lethal assistance to Ukraine's war effort. This is encouraging, but it is not guaranteed forever. The West's leading power still has to behave like one and continue investing in our own strength.

Of course, on multiple fronts, our adversaries are not behaving like they have reason to fear American strength. China continues to back up its regional bullying with massive investments in hard power and long-range alliances with the enemies of America around the world. And Iran and its terrorist proxies demonstrate daily that the Biden administration's policy has left them fundamentally undeterred.

Undoubtedly, the terrorists enjoy watching the administration henpeck America's closest ally in the region and attempt to constrain Israel's response to their barbaric violence. They laugh at belated, half-hearted, unenforceable declarations of sanctions against tertiary characters on Iran's terrorist stage and at the President's half-measured strikes against low-value terrorist infrastructure.

So this isn't just a matter of vanity or optics. It is about a sober calculation of relative strength. The failure of American deterrence isn't just an embarrassment; it is a tragedy, and the price of which is now being measured in American lives. Today, the Pentagon confirmed the deaths of two Navy SEALs during operations to interdict Iranian weapons bound for Houthi terrorists on the high seas. They were young, exceptional warriors engaged in an enemy's brazen campaign to threaten America and their allies, and their comrades and loved ones are in our prayers.

Just this weekend, Iran's proxies attempted yet again to claim the lives of even more U.S. servicemembers. For at least the 150th time since October 7, terrorists used lethal force against Americans in Iraq and Syria. Several U.S. personnel are being treated for traumatic brain injuries resulting from these attacks, and frankly it is miraculous that this unchecked aggression hasn't exacted a higher price already.

Our adversaries are posing pretty fundamental questions about America's national security and the security of our allies and interests around the world. Will we act to secure America's sovereign borders and help our friends fighting for theirs?

Will we equip U.S. forces and our allies to meet aggression with overwhelming deterrent strength? Will we invest seriously in the cutting-edge capabilities and expanded capacity necessary to outpace our top strategic adversary?

Very soon, the responsibility to answer these questions will rest on the Senate, and we need to answer in the affirmative.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ROE V. WADE

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, 51 years ago today, our Nation's highest Court issued a ruling that protected a woman's right to make the most fundamental choice in her life. Roe v. Wade enshrined into law that in America, women would have legal autonomy over their own bodies.

As a result of the constitutional protections in Roe, America's women took a giant step forward toward gender equity: being afforded the right to choose whether, when, and how to start a family.

But after nearly 50 years of progress, in June 2022, this Supreme Court overruled Roe in its Dobbs v. Women's Health Organization ruling, taking women's rights back half a century.

The Dobbs decision was a win for extreme conservative activists who waged a relentless campaign to capture the Supreme Court and overturn Roe v. Wade, but it was a tragic loss for women in America.

Take the case of Kate Cox, a married woman, mother of two, from Texas. Kate was elated to learn that she was pregnant with her third child. However, tests revealed that her baby had trisomy 18, a genetic condition that is almost always fatal very soon after birth. The prognosis was grim. Moreover, carrying the child could damage Kate's future fertility for another child.

Kate and her husband made one of the hardest decisions. They made the decision to go forward with an abortion. But in Texas where they live, it is illegal in nearly all circumstances. The Cox family hoped that the exception in Texas law for the life and health of the mother would allow her to terminate this ill-fated pregnancy.

Shockingly, it did not. Although a State court judge initially ruled that Kate could obtain an emergency abortion, Republican Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton immediately took legal steps to block Kate from receiving the care that she needed.

In addition to appealing the trial court's decision to the Texas Supreme Court, Attorney General Paxton sent a letter to hospitals and doctors, warning them that anyone involved in performing an abortion for Kate would face civil and criminal liability.

The Texas Supreme Court, controlled by Republicans, joined in the rule against Kate. She was forced to leave her home State and go across State lines to terminate the pregnancy.

Let's take the case of Brittany Watts, a 34-year-old from Ohio. Brittany was arrested after miscarrying in her bathroom. Thankfully, just 2 weeks ago, a grand jury with empathy, com-

mon sense, and reason declined to indict her, understanding that miscarriages are devastating and extremely common, a pregnancy outcome that women should not be punished for.

But in a post-Roe America, these are the horrific situations that women and the doctors who provide them care often face. Republican politicians in States like Texas and Ohio have made it clear they do not trust the judgment of women and their families in these matters.

But even amidst this devastation unleashed by Dobbs, Democrats continue to fight for women. In our home State of Illinois, we have become an oasis for women in an area that otherwise would be left without abortion options. New data shows the number of women traveling to our State of Illinois for abortions rose nearly 50 percent in 2022, and we experienced the largest increase of any State in the number of patients traveling out of State for abortions last year. Remember, in each and every case, there is the cost and burden of travel as a part of this calculation.

Our commitment to reproductive health has real-world impacts. In June of 2022, Margaret from Cook County, IL, lost her son. She was devastated. But one thing that made the experience less painful was living in a State that respected her right to make healthcare decisions privately with her doctor. Only a week after Margaret lost her son, Roe was overruled, throwing women's bodily autonomy and reproductive freedom in States across the country into real uncertainty but, fortunately, not in Illinois.

Margaret wrote to my office and said:

I cannot stress how awful it was to lose a child I loved so much, but how glad I was to be in Illinois when this devastating thing happened.

We are proud to be a State that fights for women. But there are consequences to blue States meeting increased demand for abortion care.

More than 28 million women of reproductive age live in States where abortion is banned, unavailable, or restricted—28 million American women living in those States. When thousands of women are forced to go out of State to get an abortion, it increases wait times for people in blue States, and it puts enormous stress on providers and clinics. Moreover, not every woman is able to afford the trip, find childcare, and take time off to travel to another State. This creates inequities for those who are trying to access safe and legal abortion.

One thing is clear: Dobbs does not stop abortion. In fact, the numbers show us quite the opposite has happened. The data shows that in the year following the Dobbs decision, abortions actually increased nationwide. Moreover, public opinion polls show that the majority of Americans still support abortion rights. And from the States of Kansas to Kentucky, in every State where it has been put on the ballot, abortion and the rights of women to

make these choices remains a winning issue.

Republicans may continue to attack women's rights and freedoms, but these unpopular, dangerous policies will catch up with them.

Let's not be naive. From trying to outlaw medication abortion—even in States where abortion is legal—to challenging a Federal law that requires access to reproductive care in emergencies is a reality.

Antiabortion activists continue trying to chip away at women's reproductive rights and healthcare, and they are not going to stop. That is why we must pass the Women's Health Protection Act, enshrining the woman's right to choose into Federal law. It is the right thing to do.

I urge my colleagues to swiftly stand up for women in this country.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, over the weekend, Senate Democrats and Republicans and the White House continued negotiations on the national security supplemental. We have come a very long way since talks began 2 months ago, and Democrats remain committed to working in good faith on reaching an agreement. President Biden has also made clear he is willing to work with Republicans in a big way—in a big way—on border security.

All of us on the Democratic side are serious about getting something done. I remained in contact with the negotiators throughout the weekend. We remain hopeful, but it is certainly not a done deal yet. There are a handful of issues that have not yet been agreed to. On something as complicated as the border, it is not just what we do that matters; it is how we do it. So negotiations are not done yet. Nevertheless, Democrats remain serious about finishing the job.

Senators don't need to be reminded about what is at stake in this negotiation. The future of the war in Ukraine hangs in the balance. The security of our Western democracy hangs in the balance. The safety of our friends in Israel, our partners in the Indo-Pacific, and more humanitarian aid for innocent civilians in Gaza all hang in the balance.

Ukraine is already running low on armaments and munitions that were, in large part, provided by the United States. A mere month from now, the tide of the war could turn greatly in Russia's favor, to the detriment of the

West and, in all probability, for many years to come. If America comes up short, if we abandon Ukraine in their fight against Putin, the consequences will reverberate for years. Make no mistake. Putin will not be satisfied with merely taking Ukraine. His military influence in Europe will expand westward. The costs to NATO to hold Putin at bay will increase greatly.

And, if we fail, our adversaries in Iran, in North Korea, and in the Chinese Communist Party will conclude that America no longer has the resolve to defend democracy in its hour of need. They have always bet on the fact that we would lose resolve.

On our side, here on the Democratic side, we are not losing resolve. We want to get this done, and we know a good number of our Republican colleagues want to join us. We hope there will be enough. We cannot afford to go down a dark and ominous road where we abandon Ukraine and the consequences roll before us. The eyes of the world are watching closely what we do and how we respond.

Sadly, it is clear there are some in this Congress and beyond who wish to prevent bipartisan action on the border and on our national security challenges. Whether they are blinded by naked partisanship or cowed by political pressure, these minority voices are cynically working to stymie bipartisan cooperation. In the Senate, both sides must make sure these voices are in the minority.

For the sake of our national security, for the sake of our friends in Ukraine, for the sake of America's interests around the world, we must stay the course. Senate Democrats remain committed to finishing the job on the supplemental, and, if presented with the opportunity to pass a national security supplemental here on the floor, we intend to act as quickly as possible. We are not there yet, but we will keep going.

ROE V. WADE

Madam President, now, on the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, today, January 22, 2024, should have marked 51 years of Roe v. Wade. The anniversary of Roe should be a joyous day for America, a day when the Supreme Court officially recognized a woman's right to make her own decisions about her body. But for decades, the hard right has made it their mission to overturn Roe and dismantle a woman's fundamental right to choose. And, in 2022, tragically, alarmingly, outrageously, the hard right succeeded when a 5-4 majority of extremist Justices on the Supreme Court overturned Roe, inflicting the greatest restriction of rights on Americans in over 50 years.

It has just been a year and a half since the disastrous Dobbs decision, but it has already proved to be one of the worst, most damaging decisions for Americans in modern history. Since the hard right's Roe reversal, one in three Americans has lost abortion access; 21 States have enacted draconian,

near-total bans. Republicans in Florida just introduced a ban on nearly all abortions, even—even—in the case of rape and incest. And, earlier this month, the Supreme Court allowed an extreme abortion ban denying women critical emergency care to go back into effect.

Make no mistake about it. The hard right won't stop there. They will keep going until a Federal abortion ban is the law of the land.

Let me say that again. The hard right will keep going until a Federal abortion ban is the law of the land.

Because of the hard right's policies, women and girls today are growing up in a world with fewer liberties than previous generations. My granddaughter will have fewer rights than her grandmother. These extreme bans have caused chaos and inflicted irreparable harm on thousands and thousands of women whose stories we will never hear.

Democrats will not accept this new MAGA status quo, and neither will the American people. Since the Dobbs decision, people in States like Ohio and Kentucky and Kansas and Michigan have defeated efforts at the ballot box to restrict abortion access and protect a woman's right to choose.

The message from the American people to MAGA extremists has been loud, clear, and unmistakable: Back off our fundamental rights. And make no mistake. A woman's right to choose will remain a defining issue for Americans as this year progresses.

So we still have a long way to go, but the Democrats will never stop fighting for a woman's right to choose.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. BUTLER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING DEXTER SCOTT KING

Ms. BUTLER. Madam President, just last week, we honored the legacy of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on what would have been his 95th birthday. Today, misfortune touches the King family again with the passing of Reverend King's youngest son, Dexter Scott King. America will forever be indebted to the sacrifices of the King family, and our prayers remain with them in this challenging time of loss.

ROE V. WADE

Madam President, I rise on this day that, 51 years ago, the Supreme Court issued its ruling in the landmark Roe v. Wade decision, a legal victory that granted millions of women in every corner of this Nation the right to make decisions about their own bodies—a decision that gave them the right to decide their own future. Today, this anniversary now serves as a reminder for

over 25 million women that there are those who believe that their futures are not for them to decide.

Make no mistake, the Supreme Court's decision in June 2022 to overturn Roe and dismantle nearly 50 years of precedent was a direct attack on freedom. We now live in an era where our children, including my 9-year-old, are less free than their mothers and grandmothers before them.

The Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs will indeed have repercussions that will be felt for generations to come. It is shameful that current and future generations are being saddled with fighting the same battles that their grandparents fought, the very battles that their parents thought were already won. The American spirit once meant that each generation was determined, if not obligated, to advance freedom and opportunity for the next. Yet, at this moment, we are failing—passing them the baton of a nation that is less free day by day.

I stand not just concerned but furious at the dangerous attacks on reproductive freedom. Extremist lawmakers have championed a draconian anti-abortion agenda that stunts our progress and drags our country backwards. These legislators are responsible for the ban of some or all abortion care in 21 States, leaving 1 in 3 women without the ability to get the care they need where they live. They have introduced bills laden with harmful restrictions, even going so far as to criminalize our doctors and other essential healthcare workers providing life-saving care.

The impacts of these restrictions are not felt equally. Women of color and women of lower socioeconomic status are disproportionately burdened by these restrictions. Many face the financial barriers and carry the scars of shame that leave them without access to care in state and being forced to remain pregnant while our Nation is already combating a devastating maternal mortality crisis.

These intentionally harmful policies have targeted women. They have targeted healthcare providers. They have become tools of division, dismantling the trust between colleagues and neighbors afraid to seek support or advice for fear of retribution—all in an effort to send the undeniable message that there are those who will stop at nothing to cut off a patient's right to decide for themselves.

But just as these policies serve to undermine our democracy and right of people to make decisions about our own bodies, the American people have shown that they stand on the side of freedom. Ever since the Dobbs decision, Americans all over the country and of varied political parties have spoken at every opportunity they have had in staunch opposition to these attacks on their reproductive freedom. In States like Ohio, Kentucky, and Montana, people have stood up and turned out in favor of reproductive rights. In my

home State, Californians overwhelmingly decided to amend the State constitution, enshrining the right to abortion care into State law.

Standing with the majority of the people in my State and States all across this country, I join my colleagues as a proud cosponsor of legislation like the Right to Contraception Act, the Freedom to Travel for Health Care Act, and numerous other policies that would safeguard reproductive freedom. That includes the Women's Health Protection Act, which would ensure access to comprehensive reproductive health care options, including abortion, across the country.

In closing, the American people have been clear: Their doctor's offices and their healthcare decisions are a freedom they will stand to protect. So I invite my colleagues to stand on the right side of history by supporting critical legislation that protects access to reproductive care. The next generation is counting on us to ensure that they inherit a future with the same rights as generations before them, so today and every day, I stand ready to do just that.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Madam President, today is the 51st anniversary of Roe v. Wade. We should be standing here celebrating more than five decades' worth of access to essential reproductive health care—healthcare that is central to well-being, life, liberty, equality, and economic and social freedom for everyone; healthcare that is essential to equity for women, LGBTQ, Black, Brown, indigenous, rural, immigrant, low-income, and disabled Americans. But instead of celebrating, we are fighting—fighting for Americans' freedom. We are fighting to protect the right to abortion.

Since the rightwing, extremist Supreme Court majority's Dobbs decision, women and millions of people across America have watched as States strip away their freedom to make decisions—decisions about their own bodies and their own families.

Taking Dobbs as a clarion call to rip away Americans' freedoms, rightwing Republicans across the country have marched forward to strip away the right to abortion State by State, with calls to expand that to a Federal ban on abortion. These politicians are more obsessed with interfering in the lives and decisions of the American people and their healthcare providers than actually fixing the healthcare system of our country to make sure that every American can get the care they need when and where they need that care. They are more obsessed with pretending they know more about the healthcare workers trained to support patient decision making than actually representing the American people who want to see their right to abortion being protected.

Americans across the country have suffered horrific pain and hardship,

like Massachusetts resident Kate Dineen, who drove 500 miles to receive an abortion after her son experienced a catastrophic stroke in utero. This suffering especially affects those who do not have the means or the resources to travel across State lines. Tens of millions of Americans live in States where their reproductive health care is banned or restricted.

These rightwing extremists aren't finished. Dobbs was but a preview of coming atrocities by this Supreme Court and by rightwing Governors and State legislators all across our country. They have threatened the right to contraception. They have blocked access to birth control for teenagers at federally funded clinics. They have suspended emergency contraception payments for survivors of sexual assault. They will not stop at overturning Roe v. Wade.

On this anniversary of Roe, we must recommit to taking decisive action to protect millions of Americans' access to abortion care, remove unnecessary limits on reproductive freedom, and protect against coming attacks from rightwing Republicans and this extremist Supreme Court. We must abolish the filibuster, a Jim Crow-era relic impeding the will of the American people. We must pass the Women's Health Protection Act to restore Roe v. Wade as the law of the land, protect patients' rights to an abortion, and protect healthcare workers providing these services. We must guard against coming attacks on our freedom by passing my Right to Contraception Act and pass the Judiciary Act to expand the Supreme Court and bring balance and fairness back to the Supreme Court before they make more and more decisions that overturn precedents that have been protecting the American people for generations.

We have a moral duty to act. There is no more time to waste. Supreme Court Justices may serve lifetime appointments, but we cannot wait a lifetime to right injustices. Congress can step in to protect the American people from the overreach of this radical Supreme Court majority. We must rise up and meet this moment with everything we have.

I ask my Senate colleagues what other rights Americans must lose before we act. What vulnerable communities in their States will be left without healthcare, without autonomy, without freedom? There can be no justice without healthcare justice in our country, and there can be no health justice without reproductive freedom in the United States of America being once again restored.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Ms. WARREN. Madam President, I want to start by saying a very special thank-you to Senator BUTLER for calling us here today.

Today should have been the 51st anniversary of Roe v. Wade; instead, too



many people can't get the medical care they need when they need it, where they need it. Students who are desperate for help get the runaround. Poor women face impossible hurdles. Children who have survived rape and become pregnant are frightened and confused. Fertility clinics are abandoning services, and families who hoped for a baby face excruciating heartache when a pregnancy goes wrong and doctors are barred from helping. At every turn, we see a new form of hell brought to us by an extremist Supreme Court and a powerful band of Republican lawmakers determined to obliterate reproductive freedom across the country.

To every person watching these events unfold and feeling hurt, I see you, I am with you, and I grieve alongside you.

But I do more than grieve, more than complain; I fight back, and I am asking you to fight back too because, right now, this is our moment to act and, if we don't, we might not get another opportunity for a long, long time.

Roe wasn't overturned by some accident. We are here because Republican extremists have been waging a decades-long war to take down Roe. They have poured billions of dark money into our politics to chip away at our rights. They handpicked judges with proven anti-abortion records. They took over State and local governments. They built an anti-Roe coalition right here in Congress. And the very second—the very second—that the Supreme Court gave them the green light, they jumped into action enacting the most severe restrictions possible on abortion access.

The result: Over the last year and a half, over 20 States have banned or severely restricted abortion access; passed laws criminalizing doctors who perform abortions; or threatened access to pregnancy care, miscarriage care, fertility assistance, and more.

Well-organized and well-funded extremists have brought lawsuits to further restrict access, hoping to undermine access in States that are firmly pro-choice. The result has been cruel and frightening. Some people have given in to despair, but I don't see it that way.

To me, the end of Roe marked a new era in the movement for abortion rights. Yes, an era that has been harrowing for people across the country, but also one that marks the end of a plan Republicans hatched 40 years ago to reverse Roe and the beginning of a new chapter. And in this new chapter, we are leading the way.

Together, we have made clear that an overwhelming majority of Americans support reproductive freedom and individuals' rights to make decisions about their own bodies. Across this country, millions of Americans have come together and said they are with us. Not just in places like California and New York, but in Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio.

The Biden-Harris administration has stepped up to vigorously protect repro-

ductive freedom from defending medication abortion from baseless lawsuits to preserving access to care for servicemembers and veterans to strengthening protection for patients' sensitive health information.

Republicans know that the majority of Americans oppose overturning Roe, but they aren't letting up. Instead, overturning Roe is not enough for them; they want more. They have introduced legislation to ban abortion nationwide, and if they can't pass it through Congress, they will use a Republican President to dust off a 19th century anti-obscenity law, instead, to try to get the job done.

We cannot let that happen. We have the energy; we have the numbers; and we know what we need to do. President Biden has called on Congress to act. We need to pass the Women's Health Protection Act to protect our human rights and to roll back the extreme abortion bills that radical rightwing legislatures have enacted across this country, and we need to get in the fight right now to secure the Congress that we need to get this job done.

This won't be easy, but important fights never are. I know our strength; I have seen it in the millions of people marching in the streets for abortion rights. I have seen it in the thousands of calls made to Congressional offices. I have seen it in the resolve of people standing up for Kate Cox in Texas and Brittany Watts in Ohio. And that is how I know that even when it gets hard, we will persist.

From this moment on, what happens is up to us. Together we have the power to restore Roe and to protect our right to make our own decisions about our own bodies and our own futures. I am in this fight all the way. The stakes are too high not to be.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

#### BORDER SECURITY

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, President Biden, last Friday, garnered a lot of attention for his comments on the border crisis.

When asked by a reporter if the border was secure, the President didn't hesitate; he didn't equivocate. He said, "No, it's not."

"No, it's not."

On its own, that statement is not particularly shocking because it is actually true. What is shocking is that it represents a 180-degree flip from the position taken over and over and over by the Biden administration, from the President to the Vice President to the Secretary of Homeland Security, on down.

The fact of the matter is that under President Biden's leadership, the Federal Government has shattered virtually every record on the books when it comes to illegal border crossings. In the last 3 years, Customs and Border Protection has logged more than 6.7 million—6.7 million—border crossings. At the same time, the cartels have

trafficked record amounts of fentanyl across the southern border, fueling the overdose epidemic.

Gang members, dangerous criminals, and potential terrorists—people on the Terrorist Watchlist—have used the chaos on the border to attempt to sneak into the United States. And 1.7 million of them, the so-called "got-aways," that were detected on cameras and other various sensors simply have evaded law enforcement, and the Biden administration can't tell you who these people are, what they are doing, and what their intentions are while they are here.

Communities across the country, not just in my State—in Texas—but across the country have been forced to carry the burden of caring for thousands of immigrants who cross our border every day.

No, the border is not secure, not in the least. Anyone who has been paying attention for the last 3 years could have told you that.

But it took the President 3 years to finally be willing to speak the truth, because for President Biden, this is a shocking reversal. After all, as I said, the senior most leaders of the administration have spent the last 3 years trying to convince the American people that there is no such thing as the Biden border crisis.

The White House press secretary has said, "The border is secure." Secretary Mayorkas, the Secretary tasked with the border security responsibilities, the Department of Homeland Security, he said, "The border is secure."

Vice President HARRIS, the anointed border czar for President Biden, said, "The border is secure."

This is the same line that has been parroted over and over and over by leaders throughout the Biden administration. And it is not true. It is not true.

On Friday, President Biden not only admitted that the border is not secure, he went on to say he believes it hasn't been secure for the last 10 years. That means every single attempt by his administration to assure the American people that the Biden administration was performing its responsibilities by enforcing the laws to secure the border has been untrue.

I don't know how to say this charitably. I don't easily accuse a President of the United States for intentionally telling an untruth, but it appears that that is absolutely the case. By his own account, President Biden has known all along the border was not secure, but he chose to gaslight the American people with untrue assurances that everything was just fine.

Sort of like the story goes: "Don't believe your lying eyes," when the American people see caravans of migrants coming up to the border, because they know that President Biden has laid out the welcome mat and will release them into the interior of the United States. That is a huge magnet, not only for people coming from Mexico, but around the world.



That is what has changed under the Biden administration is that this is not a regional, this is not even an economic issue. This is a matter of the human smuggling networks making billions of dollars smuggling people from around the world and, unfortunately, overwhelming the Border Patrol to the point that the Border Patrol is processing paperwork, providing transportation and care for unaccompanied children, who were likewise incentivized to come to the United States, and here come the drugs that took the lives of 108,000 Americans last year alone.

Finally, when the President was asked if he believed his own policies had enabled this crisis, he offered another shocking statement: "No."

So he said the border is not secure. He admitted that, finally. He said it hadn't been for 10 years. And he was asked whether his own policies had enabled that, and he said no.

I don't think you can have it both ways. There is a huge difference between the number of border crossings that we saw during the previous administration, during the Trump administration and compared to the Biden administration.

None of the laws have changed. It is simply the willingness or, in the case of the Biden administration, the unwillingness to actually enforce the law.

Since President Biden took office, the United States has logged, as I said, more than 6.7 million illegal border encounters. That is higher than the 8 years under President Obama and the 4 years under President Trump. So in 3 years, he has managed to accomplish something that took 12 years in the previous two administrations.

The fact that President Biden believes his policies have nothing to do with this sea change is absolutely unbelievable. It is not credible—that is what I mean. It is unbelievable. You can't believe it. This administration's refusal to take its responsibility for this crisis is pathetic, and it should be embarrassing. But, sadly, it is nothing new. We have seen this song and dance many times over.

The Supreme Court of the United States, I am told from published reports, just said that the State of Texas, which was trying to fill the breach left by the failure of the Federal Government and the Biden administration to do its job couldn't put razor wire or impediments to illegal immigration on the border.

I haven't read the opinion, but, presumably, they say it is the Federal Government's exclusive authority, and the States can't enforce that. But if the Federal Government is not going to do its job, why can't the State do it? It doesn't affect people here in Washington, DC, directly, although we have heard the mayor of Washington, DC, complaining about the fact that migrants have come to the District of Columbia. But it does affect my State.

We have 1,200 miles of common border. The huge tsunami of humanity

coming across the border has affected my State disproportionately because we are at ground zero. And now, because Mayor Adams in New York or Mayor Bowser in Washington, DC, or Governor Pritzker in Illinois, it is impacting them in a rather minor way compared to the way it has affected my State over the recent years.

The Biden administration has finally realized this is a huge political liability. President Biden is going to be on the ballot in 2024, and he realizes that this is a huge problem for him and everybody up and down the ticket because the American people really never believed the statement that the border was secure, because they could watch on television and watch on social media the huge numbers of people coming across. They knew it was not true. But now, after 3 years, the President has finally come around to admit it. You know we talked about the drugs. We have talked about the people. What we haven't talked about enough, in my view, is the fact that the Biden administration has simply lost track of unaccompanied children who have been placed with sponsors in the interior of the United States. The New York Times ran several investigative pieces pointing out that 85,000 calls were made to these sponsors to see, How are these kids doing? And the calls were never answered, and they were never followed up on. The Biden administration takes the position—I think it is an irresponsible position—that once they place these children with sponsors, they have washed their hands of any further responsibility—no followup, no wellness check if there is no response to the phone call. And the Biden administration, apparently, just does not care.

And then, most recently, we have seen a new low as they falsely blamed the State of Texas for three tragic drownings at the border at Eagle Pass, TX. A little over a week ago, a woman and two children drowned in the Rio Grande River attempting to get across the river. It was near a park that is currently the subject of a standoff between Federal and State officials.

Now, migrant deaths are a tragedy. There is no two ways about it. And, sadly, it is a too common tale along the border. Migrants frequently drown crossing the Rio Grande. In the summer, they may die due to the intense heat and from lack of water across remote stretches of desert or ranch land. It is an inhospitable place in the heat of summer. Some are killed in car accidents in high-speed chases, while others are killed while being smuggled into the United States in the back of a semitractor trailer.

Given the skyrocketing number of border crossings on President Biden's watch, these sorts of tragedies now seem to happen routinely. According to the National Border Patrol Council, roughly 2,300 migrants have died at the southern border since President Biden was sworn into office. It is an average

of more than 2 deaths each day since his open border policies have been in place.

As I said, these deaths are tragic, and they are tragically common. But this pace is not. In fact, the pace of migrant deaths has more than doubled compared to previous administrations. More and more migrants are losing their lives because of the failed open border policies of the Biden administration. Yet the Biden administration refuses to take responsibility for the dangers their policies have actually created.

The day after the most recent tragedy in Eagle Pass, the Department of Homeland Security put out an outrageous, outrageously false statement pinning the blame on the State of Texas and its attempts to do what the Biden administration has refused to do, which is to secure the border. The statement actually claimed that "Border Patrol agents were physically barred by Texas officials from entering the area." It went on to describe the efforts by State officials to help manage the chaos at the border. They called that "cruel, dangerous, and inhumane." In other words, when the Federal Government does nothing and the State officials try to step in, the Biden administration calls that "cruel, dangerous, and inhumane."

And the White House press machine has been quick to repeat the claims, saying:

Texas officials blocked U.S. Border Patrol from attempting to provide emergency assistance.

These statements were designed to paint a very specific picture. The White House and the Department of Homeland Security tried to portray Texas as heartless and cruel for refusing to let Border Patrol agents rescue these three migrants in distress.

The problem with this carefully crafted story line is it is absolutely false, but the story spread like wildfire. The Associated Press published a story with the headline saying: "US says Texas blocked border agents from entering park to save 3 migrants who drowned." Countless other news outlets ran similar stories. Social media, pundits, and even Members of Congress spread the story and criticized the actions by Texas officials.

Again, the problem is this entire narrative is demonstrably false. It is a lie.

In a new Supreme Court filing, the Biden administration has now admitted that the three migrants died before Border Patrol even attempted to enter Shelby Park on Friday night. Sadly, they were part of the 2,300 migrants who died on President Biden's watch, but it didn't have anything to do with what Texas officials were doing. The Justice Department now admits that the women and two children died around 8 p.m., and the Border Patrol didn't even request access to the area until roughly an hour later.

But by the time this correct and accurate information became public, the

damage had already been done. News stories had circulated far and wide blaming Texas officials for blocking potentially lifesaving care for a woman and two children who drowned.

Well, did the Biden administration apologize for its false accusation? Did it admit that it had perpetrated a false narrative? Absolutely not. Then, again, why would you really expect them to? This is just another example of the Biden administration that cannot be trusted to tell the truth, another example of spreading lies about what is happening at the southern border—no remorse, no shame, no accountability. The lies, dishonesty, and mischaracterizations have become commonplace, and the American people are fed up with them.

Leaders in the Biden administration have repeatedly intentionally misrepresented what is happening. They dissemble; they shift the facts; they deflect; they distort the truth; and then they try to pin their own failures on somebody else.

Well, as sad as it is now 3 years into the Biden administration, I am glad that the President has finally admitted that the border is not secure, and I am really shocked that, 3 years in, he is finally come around to admit it.

But the fact he won't accept the reality that it is his administration's policies that created the crisis is a serious problem because the status quo at the border is absolutely unsustainable and has been for a long time now, and something has got to change.

As we speak, several of our colleagues are trying to secure an agreement on legislation that will address the border crisis. I am sure it will fall short of what I would like to see happen, but Senator LANKFORD and Senator SINEMA, Senator MURPHY, and others are working to try to come up with some changes in the law that will force the Biden administration to put an end to some of the most egregious practices. And I, for one, am eager to see if they can come up with something that will force the administration to change its disastrous southern border policy, and I will be watching closely with interest as the negotiations progress.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BUTLER). The majority leader.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 467.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jacquelyn D. Austin, of South Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 467, Jacquelyn D. Austin, of South Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Angus S. King, Jr., Margaret Wood Hassan, Peter Welch, Mazie K. Hirono, Alex Padilla, Jeanne Shaheen, Jack Reed, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Chris Van Hollen, Richard Blumenthal, Gary C. Peters, Raphael G. Warnock, Christopher A. Coons, Jeff Merkley, Christopher Murphy.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 474.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Cristal C. Brisco, of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 474, Cristal C. Brisco, of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Angus S. King, Jr., Margaret Wood Hassan, Peter Welch, Mazie K. Hirono, Alex Padilla, Jeanne Shaheen, Jack Reed, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Chris Van Hollen, Richard Blumenthal, Gary C. Peters, Raphael G. Warnock, Christopher A. Coons, Jeff Merkley, Christopher Murphy.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 475.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Gretchen S. Lund, of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 475, Gretchen S. Lund, of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Angus S. King, Jr., Margaret Wood Hassan, Peter Welch, Mazie K. Hirono, Alex Padilla, Jeanne Shaheen, Jack Reed, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Chris Van Hollen, Richard Blumenthal, Gary C. Peters, Raphael G. Warnock, Christopher A. Coons, Jeff Merkley, Christopher Murphy.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, January 22, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. SINEMA. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 358, Christopher Koos, of Illinois, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors for a term of five years.

Charles E. Schumer, Tim Kaine, Angus S. King, Jr., Robert P. Casey, Jr., Sherrod Brown, Jeanne Shaheen, Richard Blumenthal, Chris Van Hollen, Mazie Hirono, Tammy Baldwin, Edward J. Markey, John W. Hickenlooper, Laphonza Butler, Richard J. Durbin, Margaret Wood Hassan, Jeff Merkley, Peter Welch, Gary C. Peters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Christopher Koos, of Illinois, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors for a term of five years, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 82, nays 7, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 13 Ex.]

YEAS—82

Baldwin	Daines	Marshall
Bennet	Duckworth	McConnell
Blackburn	Durbin	Menendez
Blumenthal	Ernst	Merkley
Booker	Fischer	Moran
Boozman	Gillibrand	Mullin
Britt	Grassley	Murkowski
Brown	Hassan	Murphy
Budd	Heinrich	Murray
Butler	Hickenlooper	Ossoff
Cantwell	Hirono	Padilla
Capito	Hoeben	Peters
Cardin	Hyde-Smith	Reed
Carper	Johnson	Ricketts
Casey	Kaine	Romney
Cassidy	Kennedy	Rosen
Collins	King	Rounds
Coons	Klobuchar	Rubio
Cornyn	Lankford	Sanders
Cortez Masto	Lujan	Schatz
Cotton	Lummis	Schumer
Crapo	Manchin	Shaheen
Cruz	Markey	Sinema

Smith	Vance	Wicker
Tester	Warner	Wyden
Thune	Warnock	Young
Tillis	Warren	
Van Hollen	Whitehouse	

NAYS—7

Braun	Paul	Tuberville
Hawley	Schmitt	
Lee	Scott (FL)	

NOT VOTING—11

Barrasso	Hagerty	Stabenow
Cramer	Kelly	Sullivan
Fetterman	Risch	Welch
Graham	Scott (SC)	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). On this vote, the yeas are 82, the nays are 7.

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING LOLA'S FINE HOT SAUCE

● Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, I am privileged to recognize Lola's Fine Hot Sauce of West Des Moines, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Lola's Fine Hot Sauce was founded by TaufEEK Shah in West Des Moines, in 2017. The original hot sauce recipe is courtesy of TaufEEK's mother Carmelita "Lola" Shah, who grew up in the Philippines before immigrating to the United States for medical school in the early 1970s. Lola spent over 35 years at Winthrop Medical Clinic in Winthrop, IA, where she practiced family health. Lola's hot sauce is a family recipe, entrusted to TaufEEK in 2015. After receiving the recipe, TaufEEK shared the homemade hot sauce with his coworkers and friends. Their positive reviews encouraged TaufEEK and Lola to embark on their entrepreneurial journey by renting out a commercial kitchen and selling the hot sauce at farmers markets in central Iowa.

Lola's Fine Hot Sauce quickly grew from its beginnings as a popular stand at local markets. Today, the business offers a variety of hot sauces and salsas, merchandise, a Southern Jalapeno Bloody Mary mix, honey jalapeno beef jerky, and Lola's Original

Seasoning. They also post videos of recipes on their YouTube channel that folks can make at home using their favorite Lola's Fine Hot Sauce products as ingredients. In addition to being sold on their website, Lola's Fine Hot Sauce can be purchased across the United States, Canada, the Virgin Islands, and the Philippines at over 14,000 retailers. In 2022, Casey's announced a partnership with Lola's Fine Hot Sauce with their new Casey's Zesty Jalapeno Peanuts, Casey's Zesty Jalapeno Cashews, and Casey's Zesty Jalapeno Pretzels. All products are seasoned with Lola's Fine Hot Sauce and are available in-store and online for delivery.

Lola's Fine Hot Sauce is actively involved in the Des Moines community. TaufEEK currently serves on the board of directors for the Iowa Center for Economic Success and the board of directors for the Des Moines Area Community College Foundation. In 2023, TaufEEK won the American Dream Award from the Iowa Restaurant Association. In addition to these awards, the Des Moines Register named TaufEEK Shah as one of their "15 People to Watch" in 2023. Lola's Fine Hot Sauce is a proud member of the West Des Moines Chamber of Commerce and celebrated its seventh business anniversary in 2024.

Lola's Fine Hot Sauce's commitment to providing quality hot sauces and products across the globe while maintaining its Iowa roots is clear. I want to congratulate TaufEEK and Lola Shah and the entire team at Lola's Fine Hot Sauces for their hard work and success. I look forward to seeing their continued growth in Iowa.●

RECOGNIZING THE HEARTLAND PREGNANCY CARE CENTER AND TRIBUTE TO BECKY REIMER

● Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I rise to day to recognize the Heartland Pregnancy Center and Becky Reimer for their efforts in declaring January 22, 2024, the Sanctity of Human Life Day and Respect for Life Day in Harvey County, KS.

As a staunch advocate for life who spent my career as an OB/GYN protecting the lives of both mother and child, I had the privilege of delivering over 5,000 babies, witnessing each time the beauty of the gift of life. There is nothing more precious than handing a child to his or her mother to be held for the first time.

As a U.S. Senator, I have continued this passion for protecting life in all its forms, including the unborn, the pregnant woman, and the new mother. Having started and supervised multiple family planning clinics, I can tell you that we must all work together towards ensuring access to prenatal care, proper nutrition, and childcare, as well as attending to the social challenges a mother faces. I am proud to have sponsored legislation that addresses these points, and I look forward to future opportunities to continue protecting the sanctity of life.

Our Founding Fathers acknowledged the defense of life, from conception until natural death, as the backbone of our country when they declared that all men are created equal, endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Thus, it is our collective duty to create and provide an environment in which life, from conception until natural death, is safeguarded as the moral foundation for America and the rest of the world.

For this reason, I now ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Heartland Pregnancy Center and Becky Reimer for their collective efforts in declaring January 22, 2024, as the Sanctity of Human Life Day and Respect for Life Day in Harvey County, KS.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

##### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2023, the Secretary of the Senate, on January 18, 2024, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2872. An act making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2023, the enrolled bill was signed on January 19, 2024, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cote, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 3222. An act to ensure the security of office space rented by Senators, and for other purposes.

S. 3250. An act to provide remote access to court proceedings for victims of the 1988 Bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1568. An act to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to protect personally identifiable information, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3058. An act to amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to improve foster and adoptive parent recruitment and retention, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3667. An act to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for the reissuance of social security account numbers to young children in cases where confidentiality has been compromised.

H.R. 4250. An act to maintain the free flow of information to the public by establishing appropriate limits on the federally compelled disclosure of information obtained as part of engaging in journalism, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6914. An act to require institutions of higher education to disseminate information on the rights of, and accommodations and resources for, pregnant students, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6918. An act to prohibit the Secretary of the Health and Human Services from restricting funding for pregnancy centers.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 25. Concurrent resolution providing for a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 2872.

The message further announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2872) to amend the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 to allow the Secretary of the Interior to issue electronic stamps under such Act, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3058. An act to amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to improve foster and adoptive parent recruitment and retention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 3667. An act to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for the reissuance of social security account numbers to young children in cases where confidentiality has been compromised; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 4250. An act to maintain the free flow of information to the public by establishing appropriate limits on the federally compelled disclosure of information obtained as part of engaging in journalism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 6918. An act to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from restricting funding for pregnancy centers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 6914. An act to require institutions of higher education to disseminate information on the rights of, and accommodations and resources for, pregnant students, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3335. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of requiring additional time to ensure a thorough response on an annual report on Military Department compliance and safety standards and a semiannual report on the activities of the Joint Safety Council; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3336. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to

law, a report relative to a notification of a Mid-Tier Acquisition program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3337. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Legislative Affairs, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled entitled "Fair Credit Reporting; Background Screening" (12 CFR Part 1022) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3338. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Legislative Affairs, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled entitled "Fair Credit Reporting; File Disclosure" (12 CFR Part 1022) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3339. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Legislative Affairs, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled entitled "Civil Penalty Inflation Adjustment" (12 CFR Part 1083) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3340. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Community Reinvestment Act Regulations Asset-Size Thresholds" (RIN3064-AF98) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3341. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rules of Practice and Procedure" (RIN3064-AF10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3342. A communication from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Additions to the Unverified List" (RIN0694-AJ49) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3343. A communication from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removals to the Unverified List" (RIN0694-AJ50) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3344. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14014 with respect to the situation in and in relation to Burma; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3345. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulation M (Consumer Leasing)" (RIN7100-AG70) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 4, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3346. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal

Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Truth in Lending (Regulation Z)" (RIN7100-AG69) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 4, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3347. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans Exemption Threshold" (RIN7100-AG19) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 4, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3348. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Reserve Bank Capital Stock" (RIN7100-AG72) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 4, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3349. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Community Reinvestment Act Regulations Asset-Size Thresholds" (RIN7100-AG73) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 4, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3350. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulatory Capital Rules: Risk-Based Capital Requirements for Depository Institution Holding Companies Significantly Engaged in Insurance Activities" (RIN7100-AF56) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 4, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3351. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Seventh Biennial Report to Congress: Estimates of Natural Gas and Oil Reserves, Reserves Growth, and Undiscovered Resources in Federal and State Waters off the Coasts of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama - 2023 Update"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3352. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of the NRC Enforcement Policy" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3353. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Illinois; NAAQS Update" (FRL No. 10900-02-R5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 11, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3354. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Chemical Substances Designated as Inactive on the TSCA Inventory; Significant New Use Rule" (FRL No. 9655-02-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 11, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3355. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standards of Performance for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources and Emissions Guidelines for Existing Sources: Oil and Natural Gas Sector Climate Review" (FRL No. 8510-01-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 11, 2024; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. SANDERS, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 3392. A bill to reauthorize the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002, and the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act, and for other purposes.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 3632. A bill to prohibit the use of Department of Homeland Security grant funds for politically biased activities; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CARPER:

S. 3633. A bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to allow the District of Columbia to receive Federal funding under such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 3634. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3901 MacArthur Boulevard in New Orleans, Louisiana, as the "Dr. Rudy Lombard Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 3635. A bill to improve the President's Cup Cybersecurity Competitions; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL:

S.J. Res. 54. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Government of Egypt of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PAUL:

S.J. Res. 55. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Government of Egypt of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PAUL:

S.J. Res. 56. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sales to the Government of Egypt of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 158

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado

(Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 158, a bill to increase United States jobs through greater United States exports to Africa and Latin America, and for other purposes.

S. 462

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 462, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to modify the loan repayment program for the substance use disorder treatment workforce to relieve workforce shortages.

S. 711

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 711, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to society.

S. 722

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 722, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit certain expenses associated with obtaining or maintaining recognized postsecondary credentials to be treated as qualified higher education expenses for purposes of 529 accounts.

S. 815

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 815, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the female telephone operators of the Army Signal Corps, known as the "Hello Girls".

S. 993

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 993, a bill to prohibit certain uses of xylazine, and for other purposes.

S. 1538

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1538, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants for outdoor learning spaces and to develop living schoolyards.

S. 1886

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1886, a bill to establish a Federal Clearinghouse on Safety and Best Practices for Nonprofit Organizations, Faith-based Organizations, and Houses of Worship within the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

S. 1925

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1925, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to improve the detection, prevention, and treatment of mental health issues

among public safety officers, and for other purposes.

S. 2372

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2372, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines, and for other purposes.

S. 2757

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2757, a bill to limit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from modifying the rate of payment or reimbursement for transportation of veterans or other individuals via special modes of transportation under the laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

S. 2839

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2839, a bill to clarify the maximum hiring target for new air traffic controllers, and for other purposes.

S. 2901

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 2901, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing incidents, and for other purposes.

S. 3297

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3297, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand the availability of medical nutrition therapy services under the Medicare program.

S. 3373

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3373, a bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend the time period during which licensees are required to commence construction of certain hydropower projects.

S. 3520

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3520, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for education.

S. 3607

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3607, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that

amounts paid for an abortion are not taken into account for purposes of the deduction for medical expenses.

S. 3608

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3608, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit treatment of certain distributions and reimbursements for certain abortions as qualified medical expenses.

S. 3609

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3609, a bill to ensure that women seeking an abortion are informed of the medical risks associated with the abortion procedure and the major developmental characteristics of the unborn child, before giving their informed consent to receive an abortion.

S. 3619

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3619, a bill to amend chapter 25 of title 14, United States Code, to prohibit the use of Coast Guard funds and facilities to perform abortions and to prohibit the provision of travel and transportation allowances to obtain abortions.

S. 3620

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3620, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a corporate tax rate increase on companies whose ratio of compensation of the CEO or other highest paid employee to median worker compensation is more than 50 to 1, and for other purposes.

S. 3624

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3624, a bill to restrict the availability of Federal funds to organizations associated with the abortion industry.

S. RES. 333

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 333, a resolution designating 2024 as the Year of Democracy as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of Government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—VETO MESSAGE ON S.J. RES. 38

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that if the Senate receives a veto message on S.J. Res. 38, it be considered as having been read and be printed in the RECORD and spread in full upon the Journal; further, that notwithstanding rule XXII, the veto message with respect to S.J. Res. 38 be considered at a time to be

determined by the majority leader in concurrence with the Republican leader prior to January 31, 2024; that there be up to 2 hours for debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees; and that the Senate then vote on passage of the joint resolution, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 6914

Ms. SMITH. I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6914) to require institutions of higher education to disseminate information on the rights of, and accommodations and resources for, pregnant students, and for other purposes.

Ms. SMITH. I now ask for a second reading and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 23; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Koos nomination postcloture; further, that all time be considered expired at 11:30 a.m.; that the Senate recess following the cloture vote on the Coscia nomination until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; further, that if cloture has been invoked on the Coscia nomination, all time be considered expired at 2:15 p.m., and that if cloture is invoked on the Szabat nomination, all time be considered expired at 6 p.m.; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW	Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.	There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:35 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 10 a.m.
Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the		



## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE FOUNDERS OF  
CEREAL4ALL, LUKE JUSTIN AND  
JETT JUSTIN

**HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 22, 2024*

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Luke and Jett Justin, the founders of the nonprofit Cereal4All, for their tremendous volunteer work in Broward County, Florida.

Both twins are cadet sergeants in Boca Raton's Civil Air Patrol Squadron. Through this, they have dedicated much of their time to community service and volunteered at events such as the Special Olympics airlift. While volunteering for Boca Helping Hands, Jett and Luke got the idea to create their nonprofit, Cereal4All, in 2016. Their nonprofit aims to ensure everyone in their community receives a good breakfast and raise awareness about food insecurity.

Averaging around 35–50 hours of volunteer work a month, Luke and Jett have provided over 275,000 bowls of cereal to needy families. They even went international, donating over 100 pounds of Quaker Oats Protein Instant Oatmeal to vulnerable families in Bimini, Bahamas, in their "Oatmeal Airlift" operation. Furthermore, the twins have partnered with organizations such as Kindness Matters 365 and the FAU Community Service Club and have even received donations from companies such as General Mills, who were eager to get involved with Cereal4All.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in recognizing Cereal4All founders Luke and Jett Justin for their outstanding community service in Florida's 23rd Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING CARSEN PARKER

**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 22, 2024*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my Field Representative, Carsen Parker, for her service to Kentucky's Second District.

Carsen is a Glasgow, Kentucky native and joined my office in May 2021. A proud graduate of Glasgow High School, she attended the University of Kentucky where she studied Economics. She began her career in my Bowling Green office as Staff Assistant, helping residents of Kentucky's Second District with federal agencies, including helping expedite and process countless passports. In May 2022, she transitioned to Field Representative. Carsen traveled across numerous counties to hear the concerns of constituents and help with community issues. In this role, Carsen developed an enthusiasm for our veterans and enjoyed working to support the military com-

munities at Fort Knox and Hardin County as a whole. That passion has led her to her new endeavor, as she leaves my office to help veterans and their families.

I want to thank Carsen Parker for her work serving Kentucky's Second District as my Field Representative and I wish her all the best in the next chapter of her life.

HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY  
LIFE OF GUY STERN

**HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 22, 2024*

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the life and legacy of a man who defined the word patriot. Guy Stern was just a teenager when he escaped the horrors of Nazi Germany and landed in this country, where he went on to live a remarkable life devoted to service, scholarly pursuit, and historical preservation. It is now incumbent upon us to share, learn from, and forever safeguard his incredible story, which stretched across more than a century.

Born Günther Stern on January 14, 1922 in Hildesheim, Germany, the future hero was the son of a humble textile merchant and homemaker, and only 11 years old when Adolf Hitler seized power. Life under Nazi rule quickly became untenable for this Jewish family, and in 1937 the elder Sterns sent their son to live with his uncle and aunt in St. Louis. Sadly, the rest of the family were never able to escape; Stern's parents and two siblings were killed by the Nazis.

Wanting to adapt as best he could, Günther changed his name to Guy on the advice of a high school girlfriend. But Guy sought not just to fit in but to serve his new country, and attempted to join the armed forces following the attacks on Pearl Harbor. Rejected by the Navy because he was not native born, Stern was drafted by the Army in 1943 and took his oath of citizenship after completing basic training in Texas. He was then transferred to a highly secretive facility in Maryland where he became part of the so-called "Ritchie Boys," an elite group of about 11,000 soldiers—many of them German-speaking European Jews like Stern—trained to use their language skills for interrogation, counter-intelligence, and psychological warfare. Stern landed in Normandy shortly after D-Day, and served in Germany, Belgium, and France until the end of the war. He rose to the rank of Master Sergeant and was decorated with a bronze star for his innovative methods of gleaning information from German prisoners of war, developing critical techniques that gathered actionable intelligence from captured Germans while remaining well within the bounds of the law of war. Ultimately, the Ritchie boys were credited with securing more than half of the actionable intelligence gathered in Europe during World War II, and were instrumental in the defeat of the Nazis.

Post-war, Stern turned to academia when he returned stateside, becoming a leading global scholar in German literature and culture. He taught for decades at Denison University then later at Columbia University, the University of Cincinnati, the University of Maryland, and finally, Wayne State University in Detroit. In 1978 he was named provost and vice-president for academic affairs at WSU, posts he held for 12 years before stepping down to return to the classroom as a professor in Wayne State's Department of Romance and Germanic Languages and Literature. During his tenure, he also founded the Academy of Scholars at Wayne State University, and was director of the International Institute of the Righteous at the Zekelman Holocaust Center, a post he held until the end of his life.

Dr. Stern was passionate about sharing his story, publishing numerous papers and books, including his memoir, "Invisible Ink." He was featured in multiple documentaries, including Ken Burns' landmark series on the American response to the Holocaust. I'm so fortunate he also shared his story with me on several occasions, including in 2021 when we convened a group of Jewish veterans from across the area and across time for a roundtable at the Holocaust Center. When he spoke, all of us in the room could sense we were in the presence of a once-in-a-generation national treasure.

Guy Stern left this world on December 7, 2023 at the age of 101: a Holocaust survivor, a decorated war hero, a prolific author, a celebrated scholar, and so much more. He once said that the United States saved his life, and that in return, he became an American patriot. What a gift he gave us. On behalf of a grateful nation, I ask that we forever remember his extraordinary life, and that his memory be an inspiration and a blessing to all.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FLOOD  
PREVENTION ACT OF 2024

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 22, 2024*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Flood Prevention Act of 2024. This bill would amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA) to include the District of Columbia in the definition of "coastal state." Senator TOM CARPEN the Chairman of the Committee on Environment and Public Works, is the sponsor of this bill in the Senate. The House passed this bill as part of the Coastal and Great Lakes Communities Enhancement Act in the 116th Congress.

This bill would correct an apparent oversight in the omission of D.C. from the CZMA and thereby make D.C. eligible to receive federal funding and have oversight for federally issued permits, facilities and actions that affect its coastal waters. D.C. urgently needs the protection of the CZMA because of serious flood

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

risks that affect federal assets, residents and businesses in D.C., including the National Mall and federal buildings in the Federal Triangle area.

The CZMA provides planning and technical services to assist states in protecting, restoring and developing coastal communities and resources. Once the federal government approves a state's coastal management plan, the state becomes eligible for grants. Federal actions must be consistent with the state plans and vice versa.

Even though D.C. is located on two rivers, and has suffered substantial coastal floods in the past, it was omitted from the list of eligible entities in the CZMA. It is notable that, under the CZMA, the term "coastal state[s]" includes the states and territories. D.C. residents pay full federal taxes and therefore D.C. is usually treated as a state for federal programs. It appears D.C.'s omission was a mistake. This oversight likely occurred because the CZMA was passed in 1972, which was before D.C. achieved home rule.

Scientists have predicted that the tides on the Atlantic Coast could rise two to four feet by 2100, causing property worth as much as \$7 billion in D.C. to be routinely under threat by floodwaters. This includes private homes and businesses, the National Mall, federal buildings and three military bases. The Anacostia and Potomac rivers, which surround D.C., are tidally influenced, part of an "intertidal zone" between high and low tides. In addition, the Maryland and Virginia coastal zones each include the tidal Potomac River, with Maryland's zone ending at the D.C. line. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 22, 2024*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on January 17–18, 2024.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 11; YEA on Roll Call No. 12; YEA on Roll Call No. 13; YEA on Roll Call No. 14; YEA on Roll Call No. 15; NAY on Roll Call No. 16; YEA on Roll Call No. 17; NAY on Roll Call No. 18; and YEA on Roll Call No. 19.

RECOGNIZING MR. JOE GRIFFIES FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY AND ADVOCACY FOR OUR VETERANS

#### HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 22, 2024*

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Joe Griffies. Mr. Griffies served our country with distinction in the 4th Division Infantry during the Vietnam War. His time in the Army was just the beginning of his lifetime of service to our nation. After moving with his wife Colleen to Cape May County in 2010, Mr. Griffies began his present career at South Jersey radio station, WIBG Studios. As the host of "Welcome Home Vets," Mr. Griffies brings thoughtful attention to the particular challenges

our veterans face and how our community can support them. Over the past thirteen years, Mr. Griffies has been a tireless advocate for veterans in New Jersey, whether helping them through complicated VA claims issues or supporting them through mental health crises. Some of his efforts include advocating for veterans on Medicare, freeing up office space in the VA to speed up appointment times, and aiding the introduction of a bill to allow New Jersey veterans honorably discharged to receive a free EZPASS. He is also a leading advocate for the Military Basketball Association, which helps our servicemembers and veterans experiencing PTSD, and has been a booster for the USS *New Jersey* (SSN 796) as it is set to be commissioned this year, the third U.S. Navy ship to be named for our great state. These are just some of the many ways Mr. Griffies has worked to ensure that veterans receive the care and respect they deserve when they arrive home. I am always grateful for Mr. Griffies's advocacy and am honored to recognize him today.

#### CELEBRATING THE OPENING OF IZUMI SUSHI & HIBACHI

#### HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 22, 2024*

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Scott Chen, John Weng, and Sandy Lin, the owners of Clive, Iowa's newest sushi restaurant—Izumi Sushi & Hibachi.

As a strong supporter of small business, it is a cause for celebration every time a new business opens its doors. Small businesses are the backbone of America, and without the entrepreneurial drive of people like Scott, John, and Sandy, our economy would simply not be the same. In this spirit, and as a sushi-lover myself, I am looking forward to watching Izumi Sushi & Hibachi grow and ingratiate themselves in the Clive community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Scott, John, and Sandy on the opening of Izumi Sushi & Hibachi. I wish them the best of luck as they begin this new chapter.

#### CONGRATULATING EASTERN NEW MEXICO GREYHOUND SOUND

#### HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 22, 2024*

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Eastern New Mexico University's marching band, Greyhound Sound, for their remarkable victory in the inaugural Metallica Marching Band competition. Greyhound Sound's outstanding performance secured the top spot in the college competition for schools in Divisions 2 and 3, earning the school a well-deserved prize of \$40,000 in marching band equipment.

The Metallica-themed competition, titled "For Whom the Band Tolls," challenged marching bands to create a unique halftime show using Metallica's music. ENMU's entrance was nothing short of electrifying. It de-

livered a well-executed medley of four of Metallica's most iconic tracks and had spectators at the Portales Campus football field on their feet.

I take great pride in representing such a beautifully diverse district where we can celebrate various music genres and cultures. The students' creativity is a testament to the supportive environment that ENMU fosters. ENMU's focus on providing affordable education and growth opportunities for students, both music majors and non-majors alike, is remarkable.

The dedication and solidarity of Greyhound Sound, under the leadership of directors Dustin Seifert, Sidney Shuler, and Emily Salgado, reflect the character of the great people of eastern New Mexico.

Founded in 1927, Eastern New Mexico University has a rich history of producing exceptional individuals, including renowned American author and Academy Award winner, Michael Blake.

The victory of this small school in a national competition shows us yet again that small places can achieve big things. As the proud Representative of New Mexico's Third Congressional District, which includes Eastern New Mexico University, I am immensely proud of Greyhound Sound's accomplishments and extend my heartfelt congratulations on this well-deserved victory.

#### HONORING MASTER SERGEANT LAURA A. RIOS AS VETERAN OF THE MONTH FOR MICHIGAN'S NINTH DISTRICT

#### HON. LISA C. MCCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 22, 2024*

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the outstanding dedication and service of Master Sergeant Laura A. Rios (ret), our distinguished Veteran of the Month for January in Michigan's 9th Congressional District. As the Chief Veteran Service Officer for the Macomb County Veterans Services Department, Sergeant Rios epitomizes the essence of selfless commitment to our Nation's heroes.

Master Sergeant Rios boasts a remarkable military career that spans over 26 years, commencing in October 1983 when she enlisted in the Air Force. Her journey led her to bases in Maryland, Ohio, the United Kingdom, California, and Michigan, where she concluded her service as the First Sergeant of the 339th Recruiting Squadron in Clinton Township on November 1st, 2009. Her leadership and dedication during her military tenure have left an indelible mark on the lives of those she served alongside.

In her current role, Sergeant Rios oversees a dynamic team of eight veteran service officers, a financial coach, and five administrative staff. Her responsibilities include counseling veterans on their benefits, facilitating enrollment in healthcare, and aiding in the upgrade of discharges. Her impact extends beyond the office, as she actively participates in community initiatives, serving on the Executive Council of the Human Services Coordinating Body and chairing the HSCB Portal of Services Committee.

Notably, Sergeant Rios is at the helm of the Macomb Veterans Action Collaborative (MVAC), where she spearheads the mission to establish a "No Wrong Door" system of care. Her volunteer endeavors further showcase her commitment to the community, from serving as a Post Service Officer at the VFW Disco Post 4659 to managing the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, preparing over 2,300 tax returns for veterans and low-income individuals.

Under her extraordinary leadership, Macomb County earned the prestigious title of Veteran Friendly County of the Year from the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency in 2021. Master Sergeant Laura A. Rios' dedication, leadership, and unwavering service make her a beacon of inspiration and a deserving recipient of this esteemed recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this true champion for those who put everything on the line in service to our Nation.

#### CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF THE PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, KELLEY SHANLEY

#### HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 22, 2024

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kelley Shanley, the President and CEO of the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, for his 25 years of leadership and countless contributions to the industry.

As a patron of the arts, Kelley Shanley has made endless contributions to Broward County, including but not limited to a yearly \$130 million financial impact, as well as opening the Rose Miniaci Arts Education Center, which has fostered a love of the arts for over 130,000 students annually. Under his leadership, the Broward Center has developed a reputation as a leader in the performing arts industry, with over 700 performances each year, viewed by more than 700,000 guests. It is known for bringing South Florida the finest arts and entertainment programs. The Broward Center has become a cultural anchor and beacon of community impact and engagement in the downtown arts district.

Shanley is admired for many things, but his commitment to innovation and how he has redefined the role of the performing arts center stand out the most. Through his hard work and leadership, the Broward Center and The Parker, a sister theater, have been revolutionized and transformed into world-class entertainment facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in recognizing the President and CEO of the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Kelley Shanley, for his outstanding career and leadership of the Broward Center in Florida's 23rd Congressional District.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all

meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, January 23, 2024 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

##### JANUARY 24

10 a.m.

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine how the climate crisis threatens ocean industries.

SD-608

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Toxic Substances Control Act amendments implementation.

SD-406

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 2003, to authorize the Secretary of State to provide additional assistance to Ukraine using assets confiscated from the Central Bank of the Russian Federation and other sovereign assets of the Russian Federation, and the nominations of Kurt Campbell, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary, Cardell Kenneth Richardson, Sr., of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Nicole Shampaine, of California, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as United States Representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Sean Patrick Maloney, of New York, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, with the rank of Ambassador, Jeffrey Prescott, of the District of Columbia, to be U.S. Representative to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture, with the rank of Ambassador, Charlie Crist, of Florida, to be Representative of the United States of America on the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization, with the rank of Ambassador, and Joann M. Lockard, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Burkina Faso, all of the Department of State, and Robert David Gioia, of New York, to be Commissioner on the part of the United States on the International Joint Commission, United States and Canada.

S-116

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD-226

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine the use of Artificial Intelligence at the Library of

Congress, Government Publishing Office, and Smithsonian Institution.

SR-301

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine succession planning, focusing on opportunities to build wealth and keep jobs in local communities.

SR-428A

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism

To hold hearings to examine AI in criminal investigations and prosecutions.

SD-226

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

##### JANUARY 25

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program, focusing on local perspectives on challenges and solutions.

SD-538

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kamala Shirin Lakhdhir, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia, and Courtney Diesel O'Donnell, of California, to be United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, with the rank of Ambassador, Laura Stone, of Utah, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, all of the Department of State, Andrew William Plitt, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and other pending nominations.

SD-419

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine assisted living facilities, focusing on understanding long-term care options for older adults.

SD-106

##### JANUARY 31

11 a.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider an Authorization for Investigation into the High Costs of Prescription Drugs for Patients in the United States Compared to Other Countries, an Authorization for Subpoena of Joaquin Duato, Chief Executive Officer, Johnson and Johnson, for Testimony Relating to the Committee Investigation into the High Costs of Prescription Drugs for Patients in the United States Compared to Other Countries, an Authorization for Subpoena of Robert Davis, Chief Executive Officer, Merck, for Testimony Relating to the Committee Investigation into the High Costs of Prescription Drugs for Patients in the United States Compared to Other Countries, and other pending calendar business.

SD-430

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S193–S204*

**Measures Introduced:** Four bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3632–3635, and S.J. Res. 54–56. **Page S202**

**Measures Reported:**

S. 3392, to reauthorize the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002, and the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S202**

**Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that if the Senate receives a veto message on S.J. Res. 38, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Highway Administration relating to “Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers”, it be considered as having been read and be printed in the Record and spread in full upon the Journal; that notwithstanding Rule XXII, the veto message with respect to S.J. Res. 38 be considered at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in concurrence with the Republican Leader prior to January 31, 2024; that there be up to two hours for debate equally divided between the two Leaders or their designees; and that Senate then vote on passage of the joint resolution, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding. **Page S203**

**Koos Nomination—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Christopher Koos, of Illinois, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors. **Pages S193–99**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 82 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. EX. 13), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S200**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, January 23, 2024; that all time be considered ex-

pired at 11:30 a.m.; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Anthony Rosario Coscia, of New Jersey, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, all time be considered expired at 2:15 p.m.; and that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Joel Matthew Szabat, of Maryland, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, all time be considered expired at 6 p.m. **Page S203**

**Austin Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jacquelyn D. Austin, of South Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina. **Page S199**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Joel Matthew Szabat, of Maryland, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors. **Page S199**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S199**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S199**

**Brisco Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Cristal C. Brisco, of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana. **Page S199**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Jacquelyn D. Austin, of South Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina. **Page S199**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S199**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S199**

**Lund Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Gretchen S. Lund, of

Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana. **Page S199**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Cristal C. Brisco, of Indiana, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana. **Page S199**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S199**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S199**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S201**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S201**

**Measures Read the First Time:** **Pages S201, S203**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S201–02**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S202–03**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S200–01**

**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today. (Total—13) **Page S200**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:35 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2024. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S204.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 16 public bills, H.R. 7059–7074; and 2 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 84; and H. Res. 977, were introduced.

**Pages H245–46**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page H247**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Banks to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H245**

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Pastor Zack Randles, Waterfront Church, Washington, DC. **Page H245**

**Whole Number of the House:** The Chair announced to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Ohio, Mr. Johnson, the whole number of the House is 432. **Page H245**

**British-American Interparliamentary Group—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members on the part of the House to the British-American Interparliamentary Group: Representatives Crow, Meeks, DelBene, Gomez and Matsui. **Page H245**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

## Committee Meetings

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

**Committee on Ways and Means:** On Friday, January 19, 2024, Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 7024, the "Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024". H.R. 7024 was ordered reported, as amended.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

### NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D11)

H.R. 2872, making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024. Signed on January 19, 2024. (Public Law 118–35)

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

#### Senate

**Committee on Armed Services:** to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Melissa Griffin Dalton, of Virginia, to

be Under Secretary of the Air Force, Douglas Craig Schmidt, of Tennessee, to be Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, and Aprille Joy Ericsson, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight, to hold hearings to examine improving export controls enforcement, 2:45 p.m., SD-562.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, to hold hearings to examine the Patent Eligibility Restoration Act, focusing on restoring clarity, certainty, and predictability to the U.S. patent system, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

### House

No hearings are scheduled.

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## CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of January 23 through January 26, 2024

### Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Christopher Koos, of Illinois, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m. Following disposition of the nomination, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Anthony Rosario Coscia, of New Jersey, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors.

If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Anthony Rosario Coscia, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:15 p.m. Following disposition of the nomination, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Joel Matthew Szabat, of Maryland, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 6 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

### Senate Committees

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

*Committee on Armed Services:* January 23, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Melissa Griffin Dalton, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Air Force, Douglas Craig Schmidt, of Tennessee, to be Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, and Aprille Joy Ericsson, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* January 25, to hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the

National Flood Insurance Program, focusing on local perspectives on challenges and solutions, 10 a.m., SD-538.

*Committee on the Budget:* January 24, to hold hearings to examine how the climate crisis threatens ocean industries, 10 a.m., SD-608.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* January 24, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Toxic Substances Control Act amendments implementation, 10 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* January 24, business meeting to consider S. 2003, to authorize the Secretary of State to provide additional assistance to Ukraine using assets confiscated from the Central Bank of the Russian Federation and other sovereign assets of the Russian Federation, and the nominations of Kurt Campbell, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary, Cardell Kenneth Richardson, Sr., of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Nicole Shampaine, of California, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as United States Representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Sean Patrick Maloney, of New York, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, with the rank of Ambassador, Jeffrey Prescott, of the District of Columbia, to be U.S. Representative to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture, with the rank of Ambassador, Charlie Crist, of Florida, to be Representative of the United States of America on the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization, with the rank of Ambassador, and Joann M. Lockard, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Burkina Faso, all of the Department of State, and Robert David Gioia, of New York, to be a Commissioner on the part of the United States on the International Joint Commission, United States and Canada, 10 a.m., S-116, Capitol.

January 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kamala Shirin Lakhdhir, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia, and Courtney Diesel O'Donnell, of California, to be United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, with the rank of Ambassador, Laura Stone, of Utah, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, all of the Department of State, Andrew William Plitt, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and other pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* January 23, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight, to hold hearings to examine improving export controls enforcement, 2:45 p.m., SD-562.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* January 23, Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, to hold hearings to examine the Patent Eligibility Restoration Act, focusing on restoring clarity, certainty, and predictability to the U.S. patent system, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

January 24, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-226.

January 24, Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism, to hold hearings to examine AI in

criminal investigations and prosecutions, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Rules and Administration:* January 24, to hold hearings to examine the use of Artificial Intelligence at the Library of Congress, Government Publishing Office, and Smithsonian Institution, 2:15 p.m., SR-301.

*Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:* January 24, to hold hearings to examine succession planning, focusing on opportunities to build wealth and keep jobs in local communities, 2:15 p.m., SR-428A.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* January 23, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

January 24, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

*Special Committee on Aging:* January 25, to hold hearings to examine assisted living facilities, focusing on understanding long-term care options for older adults, 10 a.m., SD-106.

#### House Committees

No hearings are scheduled.



*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

10 a.m., Tuesday, January 23

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

3 p.m., Thursday, January 25

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Tuesday:** Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Christopher Koos, of Illinois, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m. Following disposition of the nomination, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Anthony Rosario Coscia, of New Jersey, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors.

If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Anthony Rosario Coscia, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:15 p.m. Following disposition of the nomination, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Joel Matthew Szabat, of Maryland, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 6 p.m.

*(Senate will recess following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Anthony Rosario Coscia until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)*

## House Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** House will meet in Pro Forma session at 3 p.m.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

Guthrie, Brett, Ky., E65  
Leger Fernandez, Teresa, N.M., E66  
McClain, Lisa C., Mich., E66

Moskowitz, Jared, Fla., E65, E67  
Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E65  
Nunn, Zachary, Iowa, E66

Rogers, Harold, Ky., E66  
Sherrill, Mikie, N.J., E66  
Slotkin, Elissa, Mich., E65



# Congressional Record

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